

The Bel Aire Breeze

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Woodlawn project making progress

By Taylor Messick

The Woodlawn reconstruction project is chugging along. Jay Anglemyer of MKEC announced April 20 that all of the necessary railroad permits for the project have been obtained. The Kansas Department of Transportation is now reviewing the plans, which will take a

couple months.

“Once KDOT gets through that process, they will actually advertise the bids so the city doesn’t have to,” said Anglemyer. “Basically, all of the big hurdles have been jumped over and there should be no surprises in this last KDOT step. It should go pretty smoothly.”

Anglemyer said he was

expecting the railroad company to ask the city to obtain an easement for the storm sewer in the right-of-way. That would have been an additional cost but Anglemyer said the railroads have told him it isn’t necessary.

The private utility work is also wrapping up. Everygy still has to move some power poles near the 45th North intersection.

Some of those will be moved during construction because the grades need to be adjusted first. Cox has a line near the 45th intersection that it would like to move onto those Everygy poles. Anglemyer said Everygy’s plans might change because of the underground line that needs to be moved. He also said they could deny Cox the ability to use the

poles. Those negotiations are currently taking place. AT&T and Kansas Gas are completely done with their relocations.

City utility relocations are still underway and a change order in the amount of \$80,461 was needed to stabilize weak areas that were found in exist-

See ROAD, Page 3



Courtesy photo

Chief Darrell Atteberry and Marvelous Charles met during a traffic stop in April. Charles said Atteberry’s advice and kindness helped him take on his future.

Marvelous timing

Car stop in Bel Aire came at the right time for Nigerian student

By Taylor Messick

Bel Aire Police Chief Darrell Atteberry said police officers never really know what to expect when they make a traffic stop.

Atteberry certainly could not have expected what was about to happen during a stop on April 2 — and the impact

it would have on a young driver from Nigeria named Marvelous Charles.

“It never hurts to take a few moments to see if you can help mitigate what is going on in someone’s life with some advice,” Atteberry said. “Doctors will tell people what to do to lead a healthier life but if you talk to the doctor, the same person is back in their office a month later having not changed anything. Sometimes we speak to people and there’s no change. But it seemed like at that moment, Marvelous was receptive to some good advice.”

Marvelous Charles moved to Wichita five years ago from Nigeria after deciding that he wanted to study engineering at Wichita State University. Charles comes from a country where he said it is impossible to find a good career without the right connections.

“Going back to Nigeria would mean I would be doing nothing,” said Charles. “I literally would not have a full-time job. It’s the result of a lot of politics. There is this sort of tribal deal that, if you aren’t associated with the right tribe, you are not qualified for work. You need connections

and I have none.”

Charles feels the power struggle has prevented the country from developing and creating new opportunities for people. The state of Lagos is one area that he said has better leadership and is trying to create a different environment and more opportunity. He said most people are forced to say “yes, sir” and never question the government because of the fear of what could happen to them. Charles feels for those in his country who struggle but also has a great

See POLICE, Page 5

City takes advantage of low interest

By Taylor Messick

The Bel Aire City Council unanimously approved a bond sale on April 6 that should free up some money for the city. About 35 percent of the city’s budget goes to land debt.

Land bank sales have allowed the city the opportunity to pay down some of the principal amount on its debt and refinance bonds. Interest rates are favorable right now and the city hopes to take advantage.

“You’ll notice about \$1.4 million is in the Public Building Commission, which is separate from our land bank fund,” said finance director Ted Henry. “The PBC has a land payment due the first of May. What we’re going to do is use that \$1.4 million to go ahead and retire a principal on our current land debt service schedule and then refinance that debt service schedule. ... It basically resets that debt service schedule and then we’ll refinance with that \$1.6 million that we’re going to bring in equity in a transaction with our land bank money.”

Henry said this could free up \$350,000 per year until payments are completed in 2034. Rather than cutting the duration of payments, the city wants to free up money for streets or other projects. The bond payment duration will remain the same but the amount the city pays should be lower.

“We’ve been stretched thin for many years,” said Henry. “Doing it this way helps free up the savings this year. ... Why we need to refinance is so we can take advantage of being able to structure our debt in out years versus just taking the money in the lump sum. What it would do if we were to just take all this money to the current structure is it would basically only pay off year 2034. So we would do nothing to the current structure. We would just remove a year and that doesn’t help us build better streets or anything that the

See RATES, Page 3

Bel Aire OKs work in neighborhoods

By Taylor Messick

On April 20, the Bel Aire City Council unanimously accepted a pair of bids for utility improvements in Rock Spring and Chapel Landing. Both jobs include improvements for sanitary sewers and water, but the work in Chapel Landing will also include storm-water drains.

Five bids were received for

work in Phase 2 of Rock Spring 3rd. Dutton had the low bid of \$248,900, which was below the engineer’s estimate of \$249,922. However, the council unanimously chose a bid of \$250,000 from Mies.

Dutton is currently doing its first work in Bel Aire in several years. The contractor is working on Prestwick and previously worked on Elk Creek. City

engineer Anne Stephens said the company did good work and recommended it for the Rock Spring project. City manager Ty Lasher said that the city should use a contractor it is more familiar with for this size of a project. Staff hopes to evaluate Dutton’s work on the Prestwick project before hiring the firm for more future work. Lasher said he shared that preference with the developer and


the developer agreed.

“We’re only talking \$1,100,” said Lasher. “As our city engineer stated, we did award them the Prestwick project. But it has been awhile. They’re a smaller firm and we do a lot with Mies. I would just like council in this situation to consider going with Mies Construction. There is nothing negative about Dutton. It has just been awhile and this is a

pretty good-sized project. We did award them Prestwick and we’d like to work with them on that ... just to make sure they meet our quality standards.”

The mayor and members of the council said they hoped Dutton would not be upset over the decision and also said they hoped to continue working with the


See BIDS, Page 3



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Mayor's corner

By Jim Benage

On the Woodlawn Project, I signed what should be the last agreement with Union Pacific Railroad on April 2. The next step was for MKEC (the engineering firm doing the design) and our city staff to get all the needed documents and application into the hands of KDOT. I understand this has been done. So, KDOT will do a final review and then set the project for bid letting. Once a final bid is accepted, we will know when actual construction will start.

The utility work along Woodlawn continues on schedule. We still have about one to two months for that phase to be completed.

On March 30, we held an additional workshop, as we had too much on the agenda on March 9. While no formal decisions are made in workshops, Anne Stephens presented a plan for about \$1.2 million in street projects. This is very good news. Here is brief overview of what has been slated for 2021.

- Crack repairs and sealing in Summit Hill and Willow Creek as well as Woodlawn from 45th to 53rd.
- Fund interchange study at K-254 and Webb to get this a higher priority with KDOT.
- Project scope and preliminary engineering design for 45th between Oliver and Woodlawn with rebuild of the intersection at 45th and Oliver. (Note, this is only concept. Like Woodlawn, this is being planned with WAMPO funding so it is down the road but this is the first step.)
- Slurry Seal Willow Point, Westlake, Eagle Lake and Glenwood subdivision as well as Rodeo and Frittillary Streets.
- Crack seal, slurry seal and stripe Webb and Greenwich.
- Patch repair Rock Road. With the Woodlawn work, Rock Road will see more traffic. So, the hope is to get this done before Woodlawn construction starts.
- Patch Repair 53rd between Woodlawn and Oliver. This road needs to be rebuilt, but right now that is too expensive for the city to be able to get it done. We are looking at possibilities.
- 23 additional areas in residential neighborhoods that need patch work and/or curb repairs.
- Replace 47th Street between Farmstead and the end of the pavement.
- Re-stripe other major roads throughout Bel Aire. This is a great enhancement. The lane striping has been deteriorating for some time.

The city has also started the process of refinancing our debt. With all the land sales, this puts us in a great position to pay down and refinance the debt, without extending its term. Currently, the estimate saves the city \$350,000 per year in debt service. That's an additional \$350,000 per year that might be used to continue to improve our streets.

Please continue to be safe. Wash hands often. Practice 6-foot distance and wear a mask when in public/close contact with others. Let's continue to support each other.

It is an honor to serve as your mayor.

HIGHLIGHTS

Woman uses sister's ID

A woman trying to avoid a ticket used her sister's identification when stopped by Bel Aire police.

On April 7, a woman reported to police that her sister fraudulently used her information in a traffic stop. The woman said her sister had done it before in other jurisdictions.

Police examined the driver's license photos and compared them to the officer's body camera video. A warrant was issued for the arrest of the sister.

— The Breeze staff

Anger issues at Next Level

Tempers flared at Next Level Hoops Academy as Bel Aire police took complaints of two incidents in April.

On April 14, a man came to the police department to report his ex-girlfriend pointed a gun at him. The two were attending their 11-year-old son's basketball game at Next Level Hoops Academy in the 5200 block of North Toler. After the game the two got into an argument.

The ex-girlfriend got into a tan BMW, pulled up next to the complainant and waved a firearm in his direction. The man said he was in fear of his life. He convinced the woman to put the firearm down and leave the area. Police told the man how to get a protection-from-abuse order.

Three days earlier, a man who was upset that his son's team lost a basketball game at Next Level Hoops turned his anger toward his ex-wife, and then police got involved.

A woman told Bel Aire police that her ex-husband yelled at their son after his team lost a game. The woman said she told her son it was OK. After that, the man started cursing at her and telling her to go outside, police said.

The woman told police she needed to make a report and was planning to get a protection-from-abuse order.

— The Breeze staff

Tech used to find suspect

Technology saved the day for one Bel Aire resident.

On March 31, a man was on a business trip when he got an alert from his home security camera in the 8400 block of East Chris. He looked at his camera online and saw a man park a vehicle in his driveway. The suspect exited the vehicle and casually went to the front of the man's house and stole six accent lights from the front garden. The man then got back into his vehicle and drove away.

Officers took still shots from the video and posted them on Facebook. The suspect was identified by someone who knows him. A warrant was issued for the man's arrest.

— The Breeze staff

Local students recognized

This spring, the Kansas Honor Scholars Program honored more than 3,600 high school seniors throughout Kansas for their academic excellence and achievement.

Students from the area

The Bel Aire Breeze

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Lifesmarts team places 8th
Sunrise Christian Academy 2020 seniors (from left) Peyton Eckhart, Henry Cheatum and Jared Herndon were qualifiers for nationals in Lifesmarts. They placed eighth in the virtual competition out of 26 teams. Last year's national competition was cancelled due to COVID-19.



Catholic Charities
At the Bel Aire Lions Club meeting on April 14, Lion Richard Stadtherr and Michelle Vishnfske gave a presentation of the work and programs sponsored by Catholic Charities of the Wichita Diocese. Lion President Gary O'Neal presented Vishnfske with a token of appreciation from the club.



Coach of the year
Luke Barnwell (center, basketball coach at Sunrise Christian Academy, is presented Jersey Mike's Naismith High School Boys Coach of the Year award by Naismith Executive Director Eric Oberman. The City of Bel Aire also recognized Barnwell's achievement during a council meeting in April.

are listed by the high school they attend:

Northeast Magnet High School: Tanner Albers, Raisha Banks, Edward Bierens, Alex Bonev, Zoey Davis, Kate Harty, Taylor Hoffman, Jacob Krehbiel, Kayla Lee, Rogelio Loera Lozano, Shabnam Mohammadi-pour, Anthony Nguyen, Jazmin Perez-Hernandez, Peter Porcaro, Allison Ramstack, Rebekah Reed.

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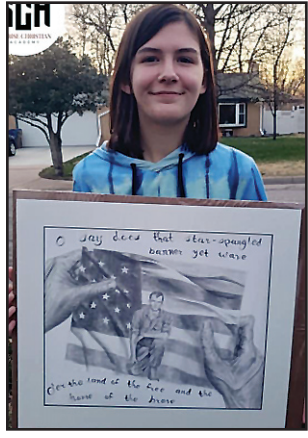
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Artistic win
Sunrise Christian Academy student Erin Henry won first place in the district in the Young American Patriotic Art Contest. Next, her art will be sent to Topeka in June for the state competition.

School: Kayla Black, Cynthia Broadrick, Arianna Brock, Tiger

Dinh, Caiden Duerksen, Kylie Fujinuma, Liyah Goode, Fnu Hafsa, Reese Hock, Ethan Jensen, Evan Jensen, Rylee Johnson, Morgan Kelley, Gabriella Leon, Silas Limes, Melanie Matson, Elizabeth McCollom, Kortney Medley, Shaniah Moore, Thanh Nguyen, Brenden Smith, Samuel Taylor, Jeremiah Terronez, Elizabeth Urbina.

— The Breeze staff

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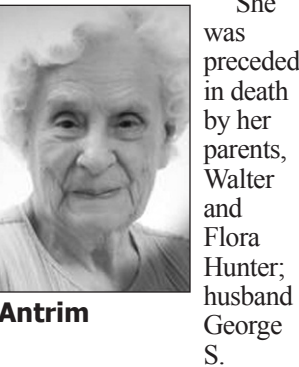
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Road

Continued from Page 1
ing manholes. Anglemeyer said most of the change order was not an additional project cost, but a cost that has moved to a different portion of the project

DEATH

EMILY ANTRIM
Emily “Ruth” Antrim, 99, died April 21, 2021.



Antrim

She was preceded in death by her parents, Walter and Flora Hunter; husband George S. Antrim; granddaughter Jennifer Woodin; two brothers; and three sisters. She is survived by her daughters Ruth “Jeanine” (Brian) Waters of Haysville, Julie (Mark) Hejtmanek of Bel Aire; brother Walter (Cecilia) Hunter of Littleton, Colo.; seven grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren.

A visitation was held April 26 at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Wichita. Service followed.

Graveside service was April 27 at Arvoniam Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to either the Kansas Masonic Home, 402 S. Martinson St., Wichita, KS 67213; or Good Shepherd Hospice, 7829 E. Rockhill St. #403, Wichita, KS 67206. Services in care of Downing & Lahey Mortuary - East Chapel.

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after soil and groundwater issues were discovered. Dondlinger will be forced to make open trench adjustments rather than using directional drilling like it previously planned to do. Anglemeyer said open trenching will save money.

Bids

Continued from Page 1
contractor in the future. Three bids were received for the work in Chapel Landing 3rd. The low bid (by more than \$35,000) of \$1,335,397.48 from Nowak was selected. The engineer’s estimate was \$911,343.25, so revised petitions were unanimously accepted by city council prior to the bid selection. The work in Rock Spring and Chapel Landing will be spread as special assessments to the benefitting lots.

Rates

Continued from Page 1
council really wants.” Henry said the city was projected to pay \$1.5 million for land next year but this refinancing could lower that to \$1.15 million. He said this is the best he has seen the treasury bond market and expects the situation to play out in the city’s favor. The estimated amount of the remaining bonds

is \$13,440,000. Kevin Cowan of Gilmore & Bell said the city needs to put \$14.9 million in escrow for a year to make payments from because the bond schedule specifies a refinancing date of May 1, 2022. Built into the total

amount is an estimate of \$500,000 in interest plus \$200,000 in bond costs, but the city still expects to save money in the long run because of how favorable interest rates are right now.

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City of Bel Aire



In the interest of public safety, please be advised that any or all Bel Aire senior and/or rec programs may be subject to modification, change, or cancellation to reflect current state and local COVID-19 orders, with or without notice.

Bel Aire Seniors

All SENIORS 55+ are cordially invited to all events listed below. The Senior Center and library area are open from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and Friday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., excluding holidays. The library has a wide selection of books to check out with neither cost nor time restraints and computers are available for study or research. Any senior can belong to or attend more than one senior center/club in Sedgwick County.

Locations

Senior Center / 7651 E. Central Park Ave. / 744-2451
Recreation Center / 5251 E. 48th North / 744-2700

Weekly Events

- Pickleball** – Monday & Friday 9am-11am & Fridays 5-7 pm, Rec Center \$2 per person or Rec membership
- Bel Aire Walkers** – Monday through Friday, 8-9 a.m., Rec Center (Indoors)
- Yoga** – Mondays & Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30pm, Rec Center
1X R-\$20 NR-\$35 & 2X R-\$30 NR-\$45
R= Resident NR= Non-Resident
Yoga mats are to be provided by the participant
- Senior Aerobics** – Wednesdays 9 a.m. – Rec Center
- Open Sewing** – Wednesdays, 10 a.m. – Rec Center
- Sew ‘N’ So More** – Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, 12 pm - Rec Center
- Line Dance** – Mondays & Fridays, 1 p.m. – Bel Aire City Hall Community Room
- Zoom Line Dance** - Mondays & Fridays, 1p.m. - Contact Sarah at 316-744-2700 or schristenson@belaireks.gov for more information.
- Folk Dance**- Thursdays, 2 p.m. Bel Aire Rec Center \$2 per class

Monthly & Special Events

- May 1** — 9am-Noon Document Shredding & E-Recycling Day, City Hall
- May 4** — 2pm Computer Class with Q & A Ribbit Computers, Rec Center (Bring your laptop or tablet and any technology questions you may have) **RSVP Required**
Contact Sarah at 316-744-2700 ext. 304 or schristenson@belaireks.gov to RSVP.
- May 5** — 10am Library Work Day, Senior Center
- May 7** — 2:30pm Memory Challenge, Senior Center
- May 10** — 2:30pm Wii Bowling, Senior Center
- May 11** — 1:30pm Words of Wisdom Activity, Senior Center
- May 13** — 10am Postcard Making Class, Rec Center
- May 15** — Spring Curbside Clean-Up
- May 18** — 2pm Short Story Writing Workshop, Senior Center
- May 19** — 1:30pm Book Club Meeting, Senior Center
- May 20** — 1pm Folk Dance Demonstration with Q & A, Rec Center **RSVP Required**
- May 21** — 2:15pm Snack & Chat, Senior Center
- May 25** — 1pm BINGO, Rec Center
- May 26** — Life Line Screening, Rec Center **Pre-Registration Required**
- May 28** — 2:15pm Wii Price is Right, Senior Center
- May 31** — Memorial Day **City Hall Closed**
To RSVP to specific events, contact Sarah at 316-744-2700 ext. 304 or schristenson@belaireks.gov

Community Events

- May 1** — Document Shredding and E-Recycling at City Hall, 9 a.m. - Noon
- May 4** — City Council Meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall
- May 5** — Bel Aire Area Chamber of Commerce Meeting, 12 p.m. (RSVP to ssalley@bw53rd.com)
- March 5** — Municipal Court, 5:30 p.m., City Hall
- May 11** — City Council Workshop, 6:30 p.m., City Hall
- May 12** — Bel Aire Lions Club Meeting, 11:30 a.m., Gospel Assembly Church
- May 12** — UAC Meeting, 3 p.m., City Hall
- May 13** — Planning Commission Meeting, 6 p.m., City Hall
- May 15** — Spring Curbside Clean-Up
- May 18** — City Council Meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall
- May 20** — Municipal Court, 12:30 p.m., City Hall
- May 26** — Bel Aire Lions Club Meeting, 11:30 a.m., Gospel Assembly Church
- More information can be found at www.belaireks.gov.**
- Future 2021 Events Mark Your Calendars!**
- October 23rd** – Fall Curbside Clean-Up

May 15th Spring Curbside Clean-Up

All items to be collected should be set at the curb prior to 7:00 a.m. and clearly visible and identified to be picked up by the drivers.
Waste Connections will make one pass through the City.

All items must be able to be handled by one or two people safely. Tree limbs and branches must be cut in 3ft. lengths and bundled for easy pickup. Any trash not in the trash cart must be in throwaway containers such as boxes or bags, with no more than 30-gallon capacity. No loose trash or debris or no box or bag may exceed 40 pounds in weight.

City Brush Site Information

The land the City brush site was located on was sold. Unfortunately, that means the City Brush site is no longer available to residents. Staff is currently working to create a list of other options available for brush disposal. Waste Connections will accept 3 ft. bundled brush with trash pick-ups.

More information on City events can be found at www.belaireks.gov.



Bel Aire Recreation

Masks are required indoors unless actively participating in an organized sport or fitness activity.

**Designates you can register online at www.belaireks.org/220/Recreation*

HELP WANTED

Bel Aire Recreation is taking applications for Lifeguards & Umpires. Lifeguards please apply at www.ksgovjobs.com. Umpires please contact Ashley @ asherwood@belaireks.gov or 316-744-2700

T-Ball & Machine Pitch*

Co-ed T-Ball: 5-6 years old & Machine Pitch: Boys & Girls 7-8 years old. Practices will begin week of May 17th. Games begin week of June 7th. Registration Deadline has past but limited openings remain.

Tippi Toes-Classes Start May 6th Sign up online!

Toddler & Me- 18 months-3.5 years

Thursdays @ 5:45pm-6:30pm
Music, movement, balance, and the basic dance steps are introduced in a fun and positive manner. This class includes a parent or another loved one in class along with their little dancer. Our teachers will keep the curriculum moving while parents take an active role in encouraging and supporting their little dancer.

Ballet & Jazz- 4-7 year olds

Thursdays @ 6:30pm-7:15pm
This dance class is split for ages 3-6 years-old and incorporates dance styles such as ballet and jazz technique while also encouraging self-expression and creativity. High energy music is used throughout the class to get dancers moving, using their imagination, and having fun!

Hip Hop/Jazz- 7-12 year olds

Thursdays @ 7:15pm-8:00pm
Using popular and current music the students start learning choreography quickly as well as learning various dance elements including isolations, leaps, turns, and current Hip Hop techniques. Our version of Hip Hop Jazz dance is extremely tasteful and clean and our priority is offering age-appropriate material.

MLB Pitch, Hit & Run

Participation is FREE visit Pitch-HitRun.com to register. Baseball & Softball divisions for players ages 7-14. Advance to the finals during MLB All-Start week! May 8th @ 10 AM @ Bel Aire Recreation Center!

Family Night @ Bel Aire Rec*

Come join us for a fun family night

on May 14th @ 6PM. We will be playing Kickball, yard games and ending the night with a sweet treat and a dance party!

Happy Feet Instructional Soccer

Starts May 11th (6 Weeks) and July 13th (6 weeks) Ages 2-5 years <http://www.wichitahappysoccerfeet.com>

Happy Hoops Instructional Basketball

Starts TBA Ages 2-5 years <http://www.wichitahappyfeet.configio.com/>

TGA Golf

Grow & Achieve in this outdoor Golf Class Starting June 8th (8 Weeks)! <http://centralkansas.playtga.com/>

Summer Craft and Go*

Looking for something to do with your kids to celebrate summers arrival? Sign up for our Craft and Go series. Come and pick up your kit filled with 2 crafts and instructions. **\$8 per Kit. Registration deadline June 28th.**

Central Park Swimming Pool

Opens Saturday, May 29th! Swimming lesson enrollment & pool rental requests also will be accepted beginning May 29th. Pool Hours- Weekdays 1-7pm* and Weekends (Sat & Sun) 1-6pm* *Pool hours subject to change. **Join our pool community list @ www.belaireks.org/220/Recreation to stay up to date with pool rentals, swimming lessons and family nights! Click the register online button!**

Taekwondo (ages 5 & up)

Classes meet on Tuesday & Thursday @ 6:30 pm. These are great classes for beginners to black belts.

Adult Pickleball

Held Mondays, Wednesday & Fridays from 9:00 – 11:30 am & Fridays 5-7 pm in the Rec Center Gymnasium! Just \$2 drop in fee or membership!

Yoga*

Classes are held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30-6:30 pm. Participants need to provide their own yoga mat. Teens & adults can join at any time!

Fitness Center

Come check out our fitness center! The Fitness Center consists of: Elliptical cross trainers, Free weights, Multi-station weight machine, recumbent bike & Treadmills.

FREE Senior Programs

Line dancing, Bel Aire Walkers, Sewing, Education, & more! **Please call Sarah for more information!**

For more info on programs, call 744-2700 or www.belaireks.gov. Follow us on Facebook @BelAireRec!

DID YOU KNOW?

Last month, you learned that one-fifth or 31 million tons per year of all landfill volume is yard waste and that during peak grass growing months, yard waste can be 25-50% of all municipal waste.

An option you have is to compost grass clippings to improve your soil and become a more successful grower of other non-grass produces, with self-made "black gold." Your compost options are rot piles, bins, or tumblers. The latter two options are readily available for purchase from various providers found on the internet.

In consideration of neighbors' line of sight and/or in compliance with HOA requirements, a rot pile can be back yard corners or yard ground depressions that will fill in over time as grass clippings decompose.

Brought to you by the Utility Advisory Committee

Spring is almost here and it's time to think about yard work and lawns. Homeowners with irrigation systems may be interested in these recent changes regarding requirements for backflow devices in 2021:

1. The rebuild requirement has changed. Previously, a rebuild was required every 5 years. Now, a rebuild is required when the system fails.
2. Systems are now required to be tested on even years only. Next year, all system will be required to turn in their testing reports and \$5 filing fee to City Hall by June 1st.
3. Irrigation systems not in use can be removed from the water system by disconnection and the installation of a permanent cap, per City specifications. Once the system has been disconnected and inspected, the testing requirement will be waived for future years.

The City is required by law to have these policies in effect to protect the public water supply. Fines and penalties can be assessed for noncompliance. Please do your part to protect our water. If you have any questions, please call 744-2451 ext. 210.

New City of Bel Aire Mobile App Available!

BEL AIRE POLICE REPORTS

March 5 — Officer Crice was contacted by a vice principal for Wichita Northeast Magnet High School in reference to a student who was sharing drugs with another student. The vice principal reported that two students went to lunch and when they returned one reported not feeling well, but blamed it on a medical condition. The student then went to staff and admitted to having been under the influence of marijuana when she returned from lunch. The other student didn't return to school until the following week. When that student returned, the student appeared to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs. The student was searched by staff and a vape pen was found. Staff then searched the student's car and found the residue of a cigar. The contents tested positive for THC. The student was suspended from school for trafficking in drugs.

March 11 — A man in the 5900 block of East Danbury reported he noticed the license plate was missing from his red Ford truck. The license plate was entered into NCIC.

March 12 — Officer Toomey stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 4200 block of North Oliver. He discovered the driver's license was suspended. The woman was cited for speeding and driving with a suspended license.

March 12 — A man came to the Bel Aire Police Department to turn in a blue Kansas vehicle handicapped window placard he found near 53rd and Woodlawn. The owner was identified and the placard returned.

March 12 — A woman in the 5700 block of North Lycee called to report her boyfriend was intoxicated and locked himself in his vehicle. Upon arrival, the officers learned that the boyfriend was accusing the woman of doing things she said she didn't do. The woman advised officers that during the heated argument, she got angry and slapped her boyfriend across the face because he wasn't listening to her. The boyfriend told officers he had been battered during the exchange. The woman was arrested and booked into Sedgwick County Jail on a charge of domestic battery. The suspect's name was not available.

March 14 — Officer Trumbull was dispatched to a vehicle fire with the driver unresponsive in the 4200 block of North Rushwood Court. Sedgwick County firefighters were on-scene and the vehicle was unoccupied. Two witnesses told Officer Trumbull the driver of the car was passed out and revving his engine, which resulted in a catastrophic engine failure and caused the fire. The witnesses reported they were able to wake up the driver and he appeared to be intoxicated.

Trumbull contacted the driver whose eyes were bloodshot, watery and glazed over. He admitted to operating the vehicle and consuming several beers. He failed standard field sobriety tests. Daniel Thomas Fradella of Bel Aire was arrested on charges of DUI and minor in consumption of alcohol.

March 14 — A man in the 6900 block of East Perryton reported his son was again not following his rules and coming home late after his curfew. Sgt. Davis discussed options to the man and his son.

March 14 — A 10-year-old from the 8700 block of East Chris called ComCare saying he didn't feel safe. The boy told Sgt. Davis that he didn't feel safe because he didn't want to be staying at his grandmother's home. The youth agreed to stay at his grandmother's house and would talk to ComCare the following day.

March 15 — Officers responded to a call of a lost adult male in the 4300 block of North Mission. Officers contacted the calling party who stated her ex-husband, who suffers from dementia, Alzheimer's and a list of other health issues, was missing. Officers searched the area and found the man lying against a fence. The man was covered in blood and EMS said it appeared the man had a broken jaw, nose, three major lacerations to his face, and a possible broken eye socket. It appeared he had fallen on his face. The man was transported to Wesley Hospital for treatment.

March 15 — Officers assisted Park City police on a vehicle pursuit. Lt. Foxx and Park City Lt. Wolff located the vehicle parked in the driveway of a residence on Ventnor in Park City. The suspect was located inside the residence hiding under a bed.

March 16 — Officer Crice received a fourth-party report of a sexual abuse occurring in Wichita. Case was forwarded to EMCU.

March 16 — Police responded to a two-vehicle wreck in the 5100 block of North Rock Road. A man was driving his 2005 Jeep Grand Cherokee south on Rock Road and a second man was driving his 2012 Nissan Murano north on Rock Road. The driver of the Nissan turned left in front of the Jeep, causing a collision. The driver of the Nissan was given a citation for failing to yield the right-of-way. No injuries were reported.

March 16 — A man was driving his 1993 Chevy 1500 southbound in the 5400 block of North Webb when he went into the ditch, struck an Every pole, went airborne over the intersection and flipped around, facing oncoming traffic. The driver was given Bel Aire citation for fail to

maintain a single lane.

March 16 — A woman in the 4200 block of North Eagle Lake Drive reported she was a victim of fraud. An unknown male requested she send \$250 in Apple cards for a job opportunity.

March 18 — Officers were dispatched to assist Sedgwick County firefighters with a disturbance in the 8700 block of East Chris Court. Officers contacted a woman and a man, both intoxicated. The man was not cooperative. He had scratches on his neck that appeared to be made by fingernails. Due to the inability to prove a knife was used to cause the injuries, the woman, Sasha Enneessa Babeyko-Dryden, was arrested on a charge of misdemeanor domestic battery and booked into jail.

March 18 — The Bel Aire Police Department received a phone call from a local business that reported a stolen license plate from one of its work trucks in the 4700 block of North Webb.

March 18 — Officers were flagged down regarding a woman having a mental episode in the 5800 block of Danbury. Officers transported the woman to St. Joe Hospital, where she was put on a medical hold by ComCare for evaluation.

March 19 — A vehicle was stopped for speeding through a construction zone in the 4300 block of North Woodlawn. The driver handed the officer a Kansas ID card. A records check confirmed the woman's license was suspended. The woman was cited for speeding and driving with a suspended driver's license.

March 19 — Officers were dispatched to a disturbance with weapons in the 8700 block of East Chris. Officers made contact with a 10-year-old boy. The boy's grandmother said the boy had broken several items in the house and battered her and his little brother. The boy claimed to be hearing voices and was told to hurt people. The boy was transported to St. Joseph Hospital for a mental evaluation.

March 20 — A woman in the 5200 block of North Rock Springs Court reported her brother's girlfriend was intoxicated, causing a disturbance and trying to leave with her two children. Upon arrival officers made contact with all parties and stood by until the woman obtained a ride from a friend.

March 21 — Officer Trumbull was dispatched to a domestic violence case involving the violation of a protection-from-abuse order in the 5200 block of North Cypress. Trumbull observed a silver Ford Taurus backing out of the driveway of the home. Trumbull stopped the vehicle. The reporting party said that the man was in her driveway and calling her on three different

numbers. The woman showed officers video surveillance of the man at the residence. Trumbull arrested Fraiger Lynndrill House on a charge of violation of the protection-from-abuse order. A records check showed the man also had two active felony warrants through Sedgwick County (aggravated kidnapping and aggravated burglary). Trumbull seized three of suspect's cellular phones that were inside the vehicle. Trumbull also cited the suspect for driving without a driver's license and for driving with an illegal license plate.

March 22 — While driving north on Woodlawn, Officer Trumbull saw a vehicle weaving back and forth on the street. He saw additional indicators of concern, so he stopped the vehicle in the 7000 block of East 45th North. When he contacted the driver, Trumbull smelled a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage. The driver admitted to consumption and failed the standard field sobriety tests. When stopped, the man had a Michelob Ultra beer top in his pocket. Mario Lopez-Moreno, Bel Aire, Bel Aire, was arrested on charges of operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, failure to maintain a single lane and DUI.

March 22 — A Sedgwick County sheriff's deputy responded to the office of the South Central Kansas Economic Development District at 9750 E. 50th North in reference to a suspicious person. He discovered the catalytic converter on a Ford F-250 had been stolen.

March 22 — A woman in the 6500 block of East Rodeo reported her ex knocked on her door and was seen on the Ring doorbell camera. She was not at home. The woman said the man was on parole from prison and was not to be at her residence. Officer Gibson contacted Sedgwick County sheriff records who did some research and provided the name and phone number for the man's parole officer. Gibson contacted the parole officer and confirmed the man was to have no contact with his ex. Later in the day, Gibson got another call about the suspect knocking on the door again. He responded to the scene and detained the suspect. He then re-contacted the parole officer. The parole officer initiated an arrest-and-detain order for the man. Malcolm Dervion Brown was arrested and transported to the Sedgwick County Adult Detention Facility. The man claimed he lived at the woman's address, although he does not.

March 23 — A woman from the 4400 block of North Westlake Court came to the Bel Aire Police Department to report a black lab mix dog from a neighbor's home continuously barks. The barking issue has been going on for

over eight months. Officer Crice went to the dog owner's home and could hear the dog barking. Crice attempted contact at the suspect's residence without success. A criminal complaint was prepared as the complainant agreed to sign and initiate court proceedings to bring the dog owner into compliance.

March 23 — A woman in the 5200 block of North Cypress Circle reported being contacted by a third party via text messages on behalf of a man who had been arrested on a protection-from-abuse order. Having a third party contact someone under the protection of a PFA is a violation of the PFA. The violation was incorporated into the previous case and presented to the Sedgwick County District Attorney's Office for charges.

March 24 — The Bel Aire Police Department received a report of a theft in the 5300 block of East 37th North. An unknown person went onto the parking lot of the church at 37th and Parkwood and stole the ornate top of a cast iron lamp post. The loss was estimated at \$2,000.

March 25 — A woman in the 4400 block of North Westlake Court reported she came out of her home to find the driver's door of her vehicle open. She said she left it unlocked the night before. Her vehicle had been ransacked. Loss was unknown.

March 25 — A vehicle was stopped for speeding in the construction zone in the 4000 block of North Woodlawn. The driver received a citation for the violation and she was arrested on Wichita warrants. The suspect's name was not available.

March 25 — Chief Atteberry and Officer Crice were sent to an residence in the 5300 block of North Pebble Creek Court to check the welfare of a man going through an emotional time. The man was served with divorce papers the previous day and had to be out of the house by noon. A relative in Missouri initiated the welfare check due to discovering during a phone conversation the man was extremely drunk. He was intending to drive to Missouri. After a lengthy conversation with the man, with time to vacate running out, he was convinced to go to a motel and sober up before attempting to drive to Missouri. His car was parked outside on the street near his residence to allow him to come get it when he sobered up, without violating the court order. Crice drove the man to a motel in Wichita where he checked in.

March 25 — A man in the 5100 block of East Willow Point reported finding his car unlocked and various items thrown around and went through. The man said nothing was taken out of the car and his Ring doorbell was not

facing the direction of his car at the time of the crime.

March 25 — A man in the 5900 block of East 45th North reported losing his handicap placards for his vehicles. He last saw them about two weeks ago.

March 25 — A woman in the 4000 block of North Danbury called the Bel Aire Police Department to report she had video of a white male getting in her unlocked vehicle and rummaging through it. Nothing was taken.

March 27 — The Bel Aire Police Department received a call about an animal complaint in the 4400 block of North Westlake. A man said he had been confronted by an unrestrained dog while he was walking near his house. The man said the same dog has been running loose in the neighborhood on prior occasions. Officer Toomey went to the home where the dog belongs and warned the owner about not keeping the dog secured. The owner said they would keep the dog secured.

March 28 — Officer Toomey was sent to the report of vandalism to a vehicle in the 5800 block of East Denise. The man making the report said his car window was broken out some time during the previous night. The winds during the night were sustained 45 mph with gusts to 60 mph.

March 28 — Officer Trumbull saw a white Chevy Malibu fail to stop at the stop sign at 45th and Rock Road. The tag on the vehicle was expired and the driver's license was suspended. The man was cited for the violations.

March 28 — Officer Trumbull saw a Pontiac G6 with an obscured tag and an equipment violation in the 4800 block of North Woodlawn. The driver presented a driver's license that was suspended. The woman also had five active bench warrants out of Wichita. The woman was cited for the new charges. Towanda Shawnte Brown of Wichita was arrested on warrants.

March 28 — A woman in the 6700 block of East Perryton reported that an unknown person entered her unlocked vehicle and took her vehicle registration.

March 29 — A man in the 4400 block of North Rushwood reported that two dogs attacked his golden retriever. The golden retriever had no marks, bites or scratches, but did have a lot of slobber on its fur. Officer Gibson was able to locate both suspect dogs and get them on leashes. Sedgwick County Animal Control assisted Gibson and transported the dogs to Heartland Animal Hospital where they were scanned for microchips. The dogs were chipped. The owner was contacted and was able to go to the humane society to get his dogs. The man was later served a notice to appear in court for allowing his dogs to run at-large.

Police

Continued from Page 1

deal of respect for their resilience.

“The one thing that Nigerians truly all do have is hope,” said Charles. “They have the right mindset. And they are very innovative. Even with all these problems, people will create things out of thin air. I think the biggest difference between Nigeria and the States is opportunity. Your degree or your career is already pretty much laid out in Nigeria but in America, you choose.”

Even if he had the right connections in Nigeria, Charles said he could probably earn more money in America in one year than he could in 20 in Nigeria for the same kind of work. He said that pay in America is more “proportional” to experience and education than it is in Nigeria. All of these issues factored into Charles’ decision to come to the United States.

Charles got interested in engineering because he knew engineers who worked for oil and gas companies in Nigeria. He acknowledged that he wants to live a comfortable life, but said money isn’t really his priority.

“At the end of the day, money is good,” said Charles. “But I feel like being a good man, being a good husband, being a good friend and being an active participant in the community are things that money can’t buy. That is what is truly important to me.”

These are the things Charles wants to pursue in America. He is about to receive his bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering with a minor in mathematics from WSU and the unimaginable pressure of what is at stake for him has led to a level of stress Charles hasn’t experienced until the last few months. After he receives his degree, he will have 90 days to get a full-time job before his visa expires. Charles hopes that obtaining a temporary work visa will provide him a path to citizenship. Knowing the circumstances he will face if he goes back to Nigeria has made the situation stressful for Charles.

“I am all in on getting a job,” he said. “I am applying actively and am fully trying. But I feel like the fact that I am not a U.S. citizen has held me back from a lot of opportunities. But I am still holding out faith and hope that I will get the right job at the right time.”

On April 2, Charles was in the midst of finals. On top of everything else, he was feeling the weight of his situation. While driving through Bel Aire, he did something plenty of drivers have done — he failed to stop at a stop sign.

“I looked left and looked right,” he said. “But my thoughts were really clouded. I was really stressing about school and getting a job and finances. When you have done something a million times, it becomes a regular routine. It was unconscious. Like, if I had seen myself doing it

on camera, I would have sworn it wasn’t me. I am one to always follow the law. I don’t want anyone to police me so I always try to do the right thing.”

Charles said he saw the police lights flash behind him and like Atteberry, he didn’t know what to expect. Charles had only been pulled over once before in America and said the experience didn’t go very smoothly. He said he was accused of obstruction for failing to yield to the officer, who was pulled over and had her car’s lights on. Charles said he was confused and didn’t think he had broken any laws.

“I was like, ‘Well, ma’am, I did not know,’” he said. “I always try to be respectful to everybody so I did not know I was wrong to call her ma’am instead of officer. But she was very upset. It seemed like she was maybe having a different problem and passing that to me. It felt wrong. I was not used to all the equipment she was wearing so I was scared. I just knew from the movies that you are supposed to put your hands on the wheel and I did.”

This time, things went differently. Charles explained to Atteberry that he was stressed out and explained why. He said he apologized to the chief and explained that he could not

afford a ticket.

“Saying all this, I had tears in my eyes,” said Charles. “I was really sad. But he told me to calm down and said ‘Hey, you’re OK.’ He explained that in the long run, it’s going to be a process and he gave me advice. He said the first thing I should do when I get a full-time job is learn to be frugal as much as possible. He just really gave what I would call fatherly advice. It felt more like what you get when you are fortunate enough to have a really good friend. That was just very touching.”

Charles said Atteberry had already made an impression on him and had already made him feel a lot better. But when the chief handed him a ticket and told him it was just a warning, he was overcome with thankfulness.

“I just started crying,” said Charles. “Even right now I can just feel a little bit of emotion. I had tears all over my face and he told me to calm down and just get myself together. I think he could just decipher the situation really quickly. He did not treat me as a threat. He was a great listener. I honestly thought the police in America would be totally different but he is a phenomenal officer. I really feel like he deserves an award. It was truly phenomenal to have that come from a man

of authority. Words cannot even really describe.”

Charles said Atteberry’s advice has helped him realize that his problems are temporary and that there is light at the end of the tunnel. He is now hopeful rather than stressed.

“I took into account that he was under more than just the normal amount of stress,” said Atteberry. “He didn’t need a ticket to compound his already difficult situation. He had a good record and it doesn’t hurt to write a warning if you think that is going to have an impact. You recognize when someone is contrite. It’s just a feeling and it’s discretionary on the part of the officer.”


Atteberry said the advice he shared with Charles was advice he got from a former commander. Atteberry worked for the Wichita Police Department for 33 and one-half years before coming to Bel Aire.

“That person mentored me during a time of turmoil,” he said. “She told me it’s a really difficult situation today but tomorrow it’s less and the next day it’s less. And pretty soon it gets better.”

The advice made such a positive impression on Charles that he came to the Bel Aire police station on April 24 to invite Atteberry to his graduation party. Atteberry said he will be

attending.

“You just never know who you are going to impact and what the magnitude of that impact might be,” said Atteberry. “I’ve sat on so many new applicant interview boards throughout my career and without fail, when you ask ‘Why do you want to be a police officer?’ you get the response ‘I want to make a difference. I want to change people’s lives.’ And you never know from one call to the next when you’re going to get that opportunity. Even after almost 40 years.”



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CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

Christ Lutheran-ELCA
Christ Lutheran Church is located at 53rd North and Hillside, across from Wichita Heights High School.
Virtual worship service is at 10 a.m. Sundays.
For more information about the church, check our website at www.christ-lutheran.org or our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/CLCwichita/or> call 744-1242.
Pastor Chad Langdon is the minister.

Church of the Resurrection
Church of the Resurrection (Roman Catholic) is located at 4910 N. Woodlawn in Bel Aire.
Masses for the Lord's day are 5:30 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday. Weekday masses are at 8 a.m. Tuesday through Saturday.
Resurrection Catholic School has students from pre-school through eighth grade.
The parish/school website is www.resurrectionwichita.com, and the telephone number is 744-2776.
The Rev. Michael J. Schemm is the pastor.

Community Bible Chapel
Community Bible Chapel is located at the corner of 45th North and Auburn.
If you have any questions about our church, please call Amy Smith at 323-2819.

Cornerstone Christian
Cornerstone Christian Church is at 5531 E. 37th North, Wichita KS 67220-2037. The phone number is 686-0208.
Sunday worship is at 10:15 a.m. A nursery is provided.
Wednesday study groups at 6:30 p.m. include adult studies, youth and Awana.
Cornerstone Christian Church will host a free family fun event from 4 to 6 p.m. the third Saturday of each month. See you there.
Pastor is Jason Whyte.

Gospel Assembly
Located at 4230 N. Oliver in Bel Aire, Sunday services are 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Prayer service is at 7 p.m. Tuesday.
Praise and worship is at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.
Youth activities are on the first Saturday evening of each month.
Phone number is 744-1502. The Rev. Gary D. Green is the pastor.

Greenwich United Methodist
Greenwich UMC at 5500 N. Greenwich Road is one mile south of K-254 and five

miles north of 21st North.
Sunday worship is at 9 a.m. with Life Studies for all ages from 10 to 10:30.
Pastor Paula Scott is available at the church each Wednesday for prayer and fellowship.
United Methodist Women meet at 10 a.m. the first Wednesday of each month and host a church brunch quarterly.
Special events are announced on the church sign, Facebook and by mailings. Please call to be added to our mailing list or email shagemeister@sbcglobal.net.
Greenwich UMC missions support large local charities like Open Door, Grace Med or Youthville, as well as small charities like Flint Hills Therapeutic Riding Center and Wichita Children's Home, to name a few.
Like us on Facebook at Wichita Greenwich United Methodist Church. Call us at 744-0203.

Kechi United Methodist
Located at 4533 E. 61st North in Kechi. Sunday worship is at 9:03 a.m. (contemporary) and 11 (traditional), with Sunday school at 10.
Bingo is at 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month.
Men's Bible study is at 6:30 a.m. Wednesdays.
Our pastor is Michelle Gowin. Find us online at www.KechiUMC.org and "Like" us on Facebook.
The church phone number is 744-1221.

LifePoint
A fellowship of the Assemblies of God, LifePoint is located at 400 S. Abilene in Valley Center.

Life University/Sunday school meets at 9 a.m., with Kids Church at 10:30. There is no regular Sunday night service. For special activities, check online at www.lpcag.org.
Wednesday evening's Launch children's program is at 6:30 p.m., with Velocity Student Ministries for youth meets at 7.
Adult small groups meet throughout the community.
Senior pastor is Steve Rains. Youth pastor is Jacob Soye. Children's pastor is Nathaniel Thurman. Call the church at 755-2331.

Risen Savior Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod
Located at 6770 E. 34th North in northeast Wichita.
You can reach us at 683-5538 or via email at postmaster@risensavior.net.
Sunday morning services in our Worship Center are at 8 and 10:30, with a nursery and Children's Church during the 10:30 service. We provide adult Bible classes and children's Sunday school beginning at 9:15 a.m.
Each month we provide options to participate in a variety of Bible studies, fellowship and service opportunities for all ages.
Find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter — search RisenSaviorICT! Find out everything Risen Savior has to offer on our website www.risensavior.net.
Senior pastor is Tom Harmon. Assistant pastor is Nick Cordt.

Saint Michael Western Orthodox Christian
Saint Michael's Orthodox Christian Church is at 2710 E. 61st North, Park City.

It is a congregation of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.
Worship with us Sunday Adult Class at 9 a.m., morning prayer at 9:45 a.m. and Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m., and Wednesday Holy Eucharist at 6 p.m.
Men's Bible study group meets at 7 p.m. on the first and third Monday.
Women's Bible study group meets at 10 a.m. on the second and fourth Friday.
Wednesday service is at 6 p.m.
Saturday Vespers are at 4:30 p.m.
The Very Rev. Dr. John Flora is archpriest and pastor. The Rev. Deacon Basil Anderson is assistant. Frank Tritschler is head chanter. Readers are James Finneran and Moses Rothenberger. Mrs. Sally Buxon is organist.
For more information call 734-6248 or go online www.saintmichaelorthodoxchurch.com. Email inquiries to jf-flora@icloud.com.

Wichita Three Angels Seventh-day Adventist
Located at 4558 N. Hydraulic, Wichita.
Birger Draget is pastor. Sabbath school at 9:30 a.m. with worship service at 11.
For more information, go online at www.godscloset.com or on Facebook (Gods Closet - Wichita).
For God's Closet, call 778-0474.



2021



2021


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